

Data Stream Generator)--;

line 6, after "29" insert --(i.e., Voice Data Arrangement Unit)--;

line 9, after "27" insert --(i.e., Direct Data Stream Generator)--;

line 10, delete ", respectively,";

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line 11, delete "thus,";

line 18, delete ", respectively,"; and

after line 20, insert the following new paragraph:

--While this invention has been described in connection with what are presently considered to be the most practical and preferred embodiments, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the disclosed embodiments, but, on the contrary, is intended to cover various modifications and equivalent arrangements included within the spirit and scope of the appended claims.--

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IN THE CLAIMS:

On substitute page 8, line 1, replace "Patent Claims" with

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--What is claimed is:--.

Delete claims 1 and 10 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Amend the following claims 2-9 and 11-18:

2. (Amended) An apparatus [Apparatus for sending data in an SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system] according to claim [1] 19, [characterized by a means (4)] further comprising:

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an ATM data packet generator configured to generate [for generating] data packets corresponding to an asynchronous transfer mode from the data stream[,]; and

a transmission frame generator configured to generate [means (5) for generating] transmission frames corresponding to one of the SDH [or, respectively,] and PDH transmission system from the data packets corresponding to the asynchronous transfer mode.

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3. (Amended) An apparatus [Apparatus for sending data in an SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system] according to claim 19 [1 or 2], [characterized in that the means (6)] wherein the direct transmission frame generator [for the direct

generation of transmission frames generate] generates position data [(20)] with respect to [the] a position of [the] a first mini-cell for each corresponding individual transmission frame [in] and inserts the position data into each corresponding [the] individual transmission frame [in each transmission frame].

5 4. (Amended) An apparatus [Apparatus for sending data in an SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system] according to claim 3, [characterized in that the means (6) for the direct generation of transmission frames from the data stream] wherein the direct transmission frame generator arranges the position data [(20)] at the beginning of a respective individual transmission frame.

10 5. (Amended) An apparatus [Apparatus for sending data in an SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system] according to [one of the preceding claims] claim 19, [characterized in that] the [means (3)] multiplexer [for generating a single data stream is a means for the] is configured to perform statistical time-division multiplexing of the data incoming in the plurality of data channels [(1)].

15 6. (Amended) A method [Method] for sending data in at least one of an SDH [or, respectively,] and a PDH transmission system, comprising the following steps of:

20 receiving and arranging data incoming in a plurality of data channels [in] into a plurality of mini-cells [of] having a flexible length, [whereby the received mini-cells are arranged following one another in the data stream,]; [and]

generating a single data stream from the plurality of mini-cells, wherein the received plurality of mini-cells are arranged following one another in the data stream;

25 [direct generation of] directly generating individual transmission frames from the data stream; and

[sending] transmitting the generated individual transmission frames via one of an SDH [or, respectively,] and PDH transmission system, [whereby] wherein the individual transmission frames contain a [plurality] number of mini-cells and

correspond to the frame structure of one of the SDH [or, respectively,] and PDH transmission system.

7. (Amended) The method [Method for sending data in an SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system] according to claim 6, [characterized in that] further comprising the steps of:

generating position data with respect to [the] a position of [the] a first mini-cell [in the] for each corresponding individual transmission frame; and
inserting the position data into each [are generated in the direct generation of transmission frames] corresponding individual transmission frame [to the SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system].

8. (Amended) The method [Method for sending data in an SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system] according to claim 6, characterized in that the position data are arranged at the beginning of a respective transmission frame.

9. (Amended) The method [Method for sending data in an SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system] according to [one of the claims] claim 6 [through 8], [characterized in that] wherein the step of generating a single data stream from the plurality of mini-cells includes a statistical time-division multiplexing of the data incoming in the plurality of data channels [is implemented when generating the data stream].

11. (Amended) The apparatus [Apparatus for receiving data in an SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system] according to claim 20, further comprising:
[characterized by a means (25)] an ATM data packet generator configured to [for recovering] recover data packets corresponding to an asynchronous transfer mode from the incoming transmission frames corresponding to one of the SDH [or, respectively,] and PDH transmission system[,]; and
a [means (26) for generating] a data stream generator configured to generate

the data stream from the data packets corresponding to the asynchronous transfer mode.

12. (Amended) The apparatus [Apparatus for receiving data in an SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system] according to claim 20 [10 or 11], [characterized in that the means (27) for the reception and the direct generation of the data stream from the incoming transmission frames corresponding to the SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system] wherein the direct data stream generator generates the data stream on the basis of position data [(20)] with respect to [the] a respective position of [the] a first mini-cell in the transmission frame that are contained in [every] each corresponding transmission frame.

13. (Amended) The apparatus [Apparatus for receiving data in an SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system] according to claim 12, [characterized in that] the position data [(20)] are arranged at [the] a beginning of a respective transmission frame.

14. (Amended) The apparatus [Apparatus for receiving data in an SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system] according to [one of the claims 10 through 13] claim 20, [characterized in that the means (28) for distributing the data] wherein the demultiplexer is configured to perform [is a means for] demultiplexing of the data stream according to the information contained in a respective header of each of the plurality of mini-cells [mini-cell header].

15. (Amended) A method [Method] for receiving data in at least one of an SDH [or, respectively,] and a PDH transmission system, comprising the following steps of:

receiving incoming transmission frames corresponding to a frame structure of one of the SDH and PDH transmission system;

[reception and direct generation of] directly generating a single data stream from the incoming transmission frames [corresponding to the frame structure of the SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system,];

[distribution of] distributing data contained in a plurality of mini-cells [in] contained within the data stream onto respective data channels[,]; and

[restoration of the] restoring data of [the] individual data channels from the plurality of mini-cells.

16. (Amended) The method [Method for receiving data in an SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system] according to claim 15, [characterized in that] wherein the data stream is generated on the basis of position data with respect to the position of [the] a first mini-cell in the transmission frame that are contained in every transmission frame. with respect to [the] a respective position of [the] a first mini-cell in the transmission frame that are contained in [every] each corresponding transmission frame.

17. (Amended) The method [Method for receiving data in an SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system] according to claim 16, [characterized in that] wherein the position data are arranged at the beginning of a respective transmission frame.

18. (Amended) The method [Method for receiving data in an SDH or, respectively, PDH transmission system] according to [one of the claims 15 through 17] claim 15, [characterized in that] wherein the step of distributing data includes [a] demultiplexing [of] the data stream corresponding to the information contained in [the] a respective header of the plurality of mini-cells [mini-cell header is implemented in the distribution of the data].

Add the following new claims 19 and 20:

19. An apparatus for sending data in at least one of an SDH and a PDH transmission system, comprising:

a data arrangement unit configured for receiving and arranging data incoming in a plurality of data channels into a plurality of mini-cells each having a flexible length;

a multiplexer configured to generate a single data stream from the plurality of mini-cells, wherein the received plurality of mini-cells are joined to one another within the single data stream; and

a direct transmission frame generator configured to generate individual transmission frames directly from the data stream and send the generated individual transmission frames via one of an SDH and a PDH transmission system, wherein the individual transmission frames contain a number of mini-cells and correspond to the frame structure of one of the SDH and PDH transmission system.

20. An apparatus for receiving data in at least one of an SDH and a PDH transmission system, comprising:

a direct data stream generator configured for receiving and directly generating a single data stream of a plurality of mini-cells from incoming transmission frames corresponding to the frame structure of one of the SDH and the PDH transmission system;

a de-multiplexer configured to distribute data contained in the plurality of mini-cells in the single data stream onto respective data channels; and

a data arrangement unit configured to restore data of individual data channels from the plurality of mini-cells.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

The applicant has filed concurrently herewith a Request for Drawing Approval in order to substitute German descriptions with English descriptions and also to label blocks within block diagrams in accordance with U.S. patent practice.